

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY USSR (Krasnoyarsk Kray)

SUBJECT 1. Copper Refinery at Norilsk
2. Prison Camps at Norilsk

REPORT

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1. During 1949, prisoners from Labor Camp No. 4 at Norilsk (N 69-20, E 88-06) worked on the construction of a very large copper refinery, said to be the largest in the USSR. By the spring of 1950, the refinery had been completed and was in operation, using convict labor, but not political prisoners.
2. Between 1949 and 1953, prisoners from Labor Camps Nos. 4 and 2 were employed at Norilsk, mining iron ore, copper, and coal. Camp No. 4 was a labor camp for political prisoners, and consisted of 6,000 to 8,000 prisoners, of whom about 400 were Estonians. Camp No. 2 consisted of about 3,000 prisoners, including about 200 Estonians.

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